LOYOLA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MANDATORY REPORTING

In accordance with The Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 all staff at Loyola Senior High School are “Mandatory Reporters”.

This means that if, in the course of their professional work, any staff member has reasonable grounds to be concerned that a student is at risk of harm, it is a mandatory personal responsibility for that staff member to report their concern/s.

Reasonable grounds for concern

(a) where a student is in a situation where:

- basic physical or psychological needs are not being met or are at risk of not being met
- has been, or is at risk of being, physically or sexually abused or ill-treated
- is living in a household where there have been incidents of domestic violence and, as a consequence, they are at risk of serious physical or psychological harm

(b) where a parent or caregiver,

- has not, or is unable or unwilling to arrange for a student to receive necessary medical care
- has behaved in such a way towards the student that they have suffered or are at risk of suffering serious psychological harm.

Ways concerns may be raised include situations where

- a student directly tells a staff member
- other students tell a staff member of a situation
- a staff member observes a situation/s.
Mandatory Reporting at Loyola Senior High School

When an individual staff member has a concern that a student may be at risk of harm their reporting responsibility is in accordance with the following procedures,

1. **Principal (or person s/he nominates) makes Report to Docs Helpline**
2. **Principal (or person s/he nominates) completes CEO Report form**
3. **Principal (or person he nominates) investigate to get further details**
4. **Principal informed**
5. **Staff member informs counsellor of name of student, details of the concern, source of these details, the date, time and location of the disclosure, the staff member’s response and the names of any other students involved**
6. **Staff member informs the student that they have legal responsibility to inform someone else**
7. **Reasonable grounds for concern of risk of harm created by student information**
8. **Reasonable grounds for concern of risk of harm created by hearsay or observation**

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Ultimate Reporting Responsibility

While each staff member has an individual responsibility to report when they have reasonable grounds to be concerned that a student is at risk of harm, it is the School Principal who holds ultimate responsibility within the school system.

Keeping Staff informed of their Mandatory Reporting Responsibilities

All staff will be made aware / reminded of their Mandatory Reporting Responsibilities in the following forums,

- Staff training incorporated in CEO Child Protection Modules each year.
- annual training at staff meetings
- documentation in Staff Handbook